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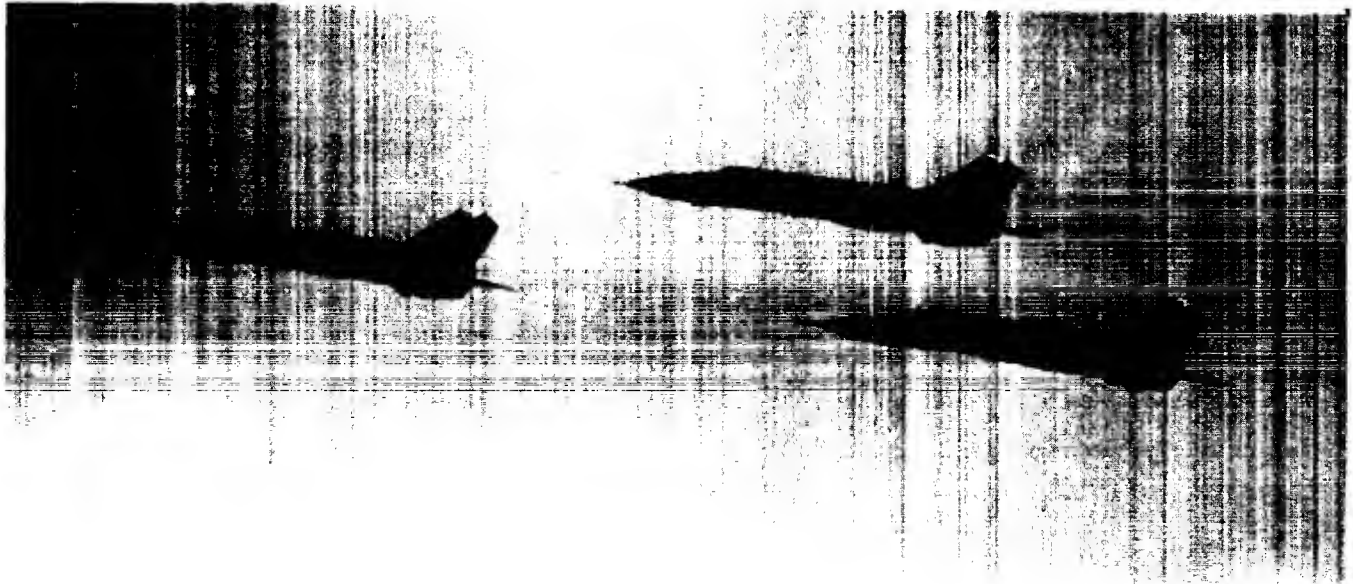
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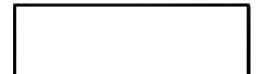
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FOXBAT



The Foxbat probably has a maximum dash speed of Mach 2.8 (1,600 knots) and in level flight can reach a ceiling of 75,000 feet. It has a combat radius of from 400 to 700 nautical miles and can accommodate a large radar and weapons for either airborne intercept or ground attack.

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USSR: A prototype aircraft with capabilities significantly exceeding those of fighters now operational has made its second record-breaking flight in two years.

Pravda has reported that an E-266 piloted by Aleksandr Fedotov set a new world record on 5 October by flying to an altitude of 98,500 feet. In April 1965 Fedotov established several world records by flying an E-266 nearly 550 nautical miles at an average speed of Mach 2.18. In both instances the aircraft carried a payload of more than two tons.

Soviet press descriptions indicate that the E-266 has a twin tail and closely resembles the twin-jet Foxbat multipurpose fighter the Soviets displayed for the first time last July in the Moscow air show. The Foxbat probably will have the best combination of speed, altitude, and load capacity of any Soviet fighter when it is first deployed in 1969 or 1970.
(Photo)

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Peru: The government's inability to cope with mounting economic problems may precipitate a military take-over.

A general strike that started in Arequipa on 19 October has forced the suspension of constitutional guarantees there. Military reinforcements for the police have been dispatched to the city. The strike is spreading to other cities. Sporadic violence and looting have also occurred in Arequipa, Lima and Callao in protest against a sharp rise in the cost of living that followed devaluation of the currency on 1 September.


The government has proposed a sliding scale of wage hikes from 10 to 20 percent to cope with rising living costs. If the strikers in Arequipa can be persuaded to accept this proposal--in spite of union leaders' demands for increases ranging from 25 to 50 percent--labor unrest elsewhere probably will abate at least temporarily. The causes of unrest will remain, however, because of the President's inability to reach agreement with congress on specific measures to solve current economic problems.

In addition, military insistence on a balanced budget as a condition for continued support of the government will make it difficult for President Belaunde to make further concessions to labor.

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 any coup would have anti-US overtones and Peruvian foreign policy would be readjusted, probably with a European orientation. Under such circumstances, the US military

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missions probably would be asked to leave the country.
The French, who have already sold Mirage supersonic
aircraft to the Peruvian air force, might also be asked
to supply financial advisers.

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Venezuela: The split in the leadership of the ruling Democratic Action Party probably will reduce its ability to govern effectively.

Unless some compromise can be reached, the government will lose its slim majority in congress, and the Leoni administration will be reduced to essentially caretaker functions. Some Venezuelans already have expressed concern for the country's stability, although most observers do not feel the situation poses an immediate threat to the country's democratic process. The military are keeping aloof from the crisis, but are undoubtedly watching developments closely.

The cause of the split is a dispute between two factions over the party's presidential nominee for the national elections in December 1968. The faction representing most of the party's top leaders wants Secretary General Gonzalo Barrios to be the standard bearer, while another wing is pushing for Luis Beltran Prieto, a much more popular figure. Prieto recently defeated Barrios overwhelmingly in a primary election but Barrios and the party leadership refuse to recognize the victory.

Prieto and several of his principal followers were suspended from their leadership positions on 24 October. It is not yet clear whether they will try to form a new party,

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NOTES

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Libya: The new cabinet appointed on 25 October will not affect Libya's basic orientation toward the West. The young and relatively liberal Abd-al-Hamid Bakkush replaced Prime Minister al-Badri, who apparently resigned because of disagreement with King Idris over proposed cabinet changes. Bakkush is considerably more popular than his predecessor and will give the regime a more progressive image.

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South Korea: Prospects for settlement of the legislative impasse between the government and the opposition party have been set back sharply. President Pak Chong-hui, angered by opposition stalling, has publicly slammed the door on further government concessions to end the opposition's five-month boycott of the National Assembly. Pak's action is likely to strengthen the position of opposition hard-liners who will now press for street demonstrations which could lead to clashes with police.

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Denmark: Despite official disapproval the organizers of the second session of the "International War Crimes Tribunal" have succeeded in securing facilities outside Copenhagen for its meeting in late November. The tribunal is expected to find the US guilty of "war crimes," and to indict South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, and Japan as accomplices. The decision to hold this meeting in Denmark has created difficulties for Prime Minister Krag who has taken the position that he cannot legally prevent it from being held.

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